

July 30. An act of the Clergy of Massachusetts and New-Hampshire, recommending the Rev. Edward Bass for consecration, was laid before the Convention by the Right Rev. Dr. White, and is as follows:

THE good Providence of Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, having lately blessed the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, by supplying it with a complete and entire ministry, and affording to many of her communion the benefit of the labours, advice and government of the successors of the Apostles:

We, Presbyters of said church in the States of Massachusetts and New-Hampshire, deeply impressed with the most lively gratitude to the Supreme Governor of the Universe, for his goodness in this respect, and with the most ardent love to his church, and concern for the interest of her sons, that they may enjoy all the means that Christ, the great shepherd and bishop of souls, has instituted for leading his followers into the ways of truth and holiness, and preserving his church in the unity of the spirit and the bond of peace; to the end that the people committed to our respective charges may enjoy the benefit and advantage of those offices, the administration of which belongs to the highest orders of the ministry, and to encourage and promote, as far as in us lies, a union of the whole Episcopal Church in these states, and to perfect and compact this mystical body of Christ, do hereby nominate, elect and appoint the Reverend Edward Bass, a Presbyter of said church, and Rector of St. Paul's, in Newbury-Port, to be our Bishop; and we do promise and engage to receive him as such, when canonically consecrated, and invested with the apostolic office and powers, by the Right Reverend the Bishops hereafter named, and to render him all that canonical obedience and submission, which, by the laws of Christ and the constitution of our church, is due to so important an office.

And we now address the Right Reverend the Bishops in the states of Connecticut, New-York and Pennsylvania, praying their united assistance in consecrating our said brother, and canonically investing him with the apostolic office and powers. This request we are induced to make, from a long acquaintance with him, and from a perfect knowledge of his being possessed of that love to God and benevolence to men, that piety, learning good morals, that prudence and discretion, requisite to so exalted a station, as well as that personal respect and attachment of the communion at large in these states, which will make him a valuable acquisition to the order,

and, we trust, a rich blessing to the church.

*Done at a meeting of the Presbyters, whose names are underwritten, held at Salem, in the county of Essex, and commonwealth of Massachusetts, the fourth of June, Anno Salutis, 1789.*

SAMUEL PARKER, Rector of Trinity Church, Boston.

T. FITCH OLIVER, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Marblehead.

JOHN COUSEN'S OGDEN, Rector of Queen's Chapel, Portsmouth, New-Hampshire.

WILLIAM MONTAGUE, Minister of Christ's Church, Boston.

TILLOTSON BRUNSON, Assistant Minister of Christ's Church, Boston.

A letter was also read from the Right Rev. Dr. Seabury, Bishop of the church in Connecticut, to the Right Rev. Dr. White, and one from the same gentleman to the Rev. Dr. Smith.

Upon reading the said letters, it appearing that Bishop Seabury lay under some misapprehensions concerning an entry in the minutes of a former Convention, as intending some doubt of the validity of his consecration,

*Resolved unanimously*, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that the consecration of the Right Rev. Dr. Seabury to the Episcopal Office is valid.

31. *Resolved*, That the application of the Clergy of Massachusetts and New-Hampshire to the Right Rev. Doctors Seabury, Provost and White, be considered tomorrow in a committee of the whole.

Aug. 5. The committee of the whole, having had under their deliberate consideration the application of the Clergy of Massachusetts and New-Hampshire, for the consecration of the Rev. Edward Bass, as their Bishop, do offer to the Convention the following resolves:

1st. *Resolved*, That a complete order of Bishops, derived as well under the English as the Scots line of Episcopacy, doth now subsist within the United States of America, in the persons of the Right Rev. Wm. White, D. D. Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the state of Pennsylvania, the Right Rev. Samuel Provost, D. D. Bishop of the said Church in the state of New-York, and the Right Rev. Samuel Seabury, D. D. Bishop of the said Church in the state of Connecticut.

2d. *Resolved*, That the said three Bishops are fully competent to every proper act and duty of the episcopal office and character in these United States, as well in respect to the consecration of other Bishops, and the Ordering of Priests and Deacons;